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KAMBADAIS

Disney

GARGOYLES

D.NA
4.23

STONE BY DAY, WARRIORS BY NIGHT

WE WERE BETRAYED BY THE HUMANS
WE HAD SWORN TO PROTECT, FROZEN IN STONE
BY A MAGIC SPELL FOR A THOUSAND YEARS

NOW, HERE IN MANHATTAN, THE
SPELL IS BROKEN, AND WE LIVE AGAIN

WE ARE DEFENDERS
OF THE NIGHT

WE ARE

GARGOYLES

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FRIDAY, MAY 16, 1997.
10:54 AM.
NEW YORK CITY
CRIMINAL COURT.

LET ME MAKE THIS *CLEAR*...

...THIS IS A *HEARING*, NOT A TRIAL.

THERE ARE *NO CHARGES* AGAINST THE GARGOYLE *GOLIATH*.

THUS, THERE WILL BE *NO JURY*. *NO VERDICT* OF *GUILT* OR *INNOCENCE*.

I WILL BE DECIDING ON *TWO* AND *ONLY* TWO RELEVANT ISSUES...

...WHETHER GOLIATH POSSESSES *SENTIENCE*, AND, *IF SO*--

--WHETHER *GARGOYLES* DESERVE THE SAME *RIGHTS* AND *PROTECTIONS* UNDER THE LAW AS WE *HUMANS*.

NOW, THERE ARE SOME PRE-TRIAL--

SORRY, PRE-*HEARING* MOTIONS BEFORE THE COURT...

MISTER *CREST*, YOU'RE UP FIRST.

YES, YOUR HONOR. COUNSEL FOR THE *PLAINTIFF* ASKS THAT PROCEEDINGS TAKE PLACE *AFTER SUNDOWN*--

--SO THAT *GOLIATH* MAY ATTEND, IN ORDER TO *PARTICIPATE* AND *AID* IN HIS *DEFENSE*.

"AID IN HIS DEFENSE?!" NOW THE *CREATURE* HAS A *LAW DEGREE?!*

AS AN OFFICER OF THIS COURT, HOW CAN YOU EVEN ***SUGGEST*** BRINGING THIS ***DANGEROUS MONSTER*** HERE?

THE RISK OF IT ***ESCAPING*** ASIDE, THE ***THREAT*** TO ***LIFE***, ***LIMB*** AND ***PROPERTY*** IS BEYOND THE PALE.

COMPARED TO WHATEVER ***SYMPATHY*** COUNSEL SEEKS TO GAIN BY ***DISPLAYING*** THE ***ANIMAL*** IN COURT--

THIS IS NO THEATRICAL PLOY, MS. ***YALE!***

GOLIATH ***MUST*** BE PRESENT, AS HE WILL BE ***TESTIFYING*** ON HIS OWN BEHALF--

TESTIFYING?!

HOW CAN THAT ***THING*** BE CONSIDERED ***COMPETENT*** TO TESTIFY?!

ISN'T THAT ***EXACTLY*** WHAT WE'RE HERE TO DECIDE?

YOUR HONOR, IS A ***SENTIENCE*** HEARING REALLY ALL THAT DIFFERENT FROM A ***COMPETENCY*** HEARING?

AND, CERTAINLY, ***ANY*** PLAINTIFF FIGHTING TO PROVE COMPETENCE--

--WOULD BE ENTITLED A CHANCE TO ***DEMONSTRATE*** SAID COMPETENCE ON THE STAND. GIVEN THAT...

...I ASSUME YOU HAVE NO WISH TO PROVIDE ME WITH ***EASY GROUNDS*** FOR AN ***APPEAL***.

THE COURT AGREES *IN PRINCIPLE* TO ALLOWING GOLIATH TO TAKE THE STAND...

BUT, YOUR HONOR--

IF THE GARGOYLE IS INCAPABLE, THAT SHOULD BE READILY APPARENT...

...AND, I IMAGINE, WOULD ONLY HELP YOUR CASE, MS. YALE.

BUT THE ISSUE OF *SAFETY* IS STILL OF CONCERN.

THIS AFTERNOON, WE'LL HEAR TESTIMONY--*OBJECTIVE* TESTIMONY--THAT SPEAKS TO THAT...

02:16 PM.

PLEASE STATE YOUR *FULL NAME* AND *OCCUPATION* FOR THE RECORD.

DETECTIVE *MATTHEW MENACHEM BLUESTONE*. HEAD OF THE N.Y.P.D.'S *GARGOYLE TASKFORCE*.

AND DO YOU BELIEVE THE GARGOYLE GOLIATH CAN BE *SAFELY* BROUGHT TO THIS COURTROOM?

YES. *ALL* NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS WILL BE TAKEN.

GOLIATH WILL PRESENT *NO DANGER* TO THE COURT.

OF THAT, I TRULY HAVE *NO DOUBT*.

FINE. THEN THE MOTION TO SCHEDULE THIS HEARING AFTER SUNDOWN IS ***GRANTED***.

WHAM

NEXT MOTION...

03:09 PM.

TRAVIS MARSHALL. ANCHOR, REPORTER AND MANAGING EDITOR OF ***W.V.R.N.*** NEWS.

AND YOU'VE BEEN CHOSEN TO REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF THE ***PRESS*** IN THIS PROCEEDING?

THE PRESS AND THE ***PUBLIC***.

WE BELIEVE IT IS IN THE LATTER'S BEST INTEREST TO ALLOW THIS HEARING TO BE ***TELEVISED***. ***LIVE***.

ANY OBJECTIONS?

NONE, YOUR HONOR.

NONE AT THIS TIME, YOUR HONOR.

FINE. THEN THE MOTION TO TELEVISE THIS HEARING IS ***GRANTED***.

WHAM

SAID HEARING IS HEREBY SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, MAY NINETEENTH AT...*UM*, NINE P.M. ***SHARP***.

SEVENTEEN YEARS AFTER I WAS ORPHANED, IT FINALLY HAPPENED, I WAS RESCUED AND WELCOMED BACK INTO CIVILIZATION WITH OPEN ARMS.

I STILL HAVE MUCH TO LEARN ABOUT THE WORLD, AND OUR WONDERFUL COUNTRY, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF VAL VERDE AND ITS WONDERFUL *EL PRESIDENTE*... AND OUR FIRST LADY, AND THAT IS WHY I AM HERE...

...TO LEARN ABOUT ALL THE THINGS I MISSED--LIKE PLUMBING. *HA, HA!*

THE PRICE TAG IS STILL ON HER JACKET!!

HA HA HA!

BONK

VERY GOOD, RACHEL--YOU CAN TAKE YOUR SEAT...

YEEP

FIRE

AHHH!

WHOOP

WHOOP

WHOOP

PU

BSHH

MIRACLE GIRL? MORE LIKE MONKEY GIRL!

YOU'VE RUINED CLASSES FOR THE DAY!

Directora Solis

OUR POLICY ON EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMALS DOESN'T EXCUSE STUDENTS FROM RESPONSIBILITY, MISS CARDWELL!

HOW COULD I KNOW IT WOULD RAIN INSIDE? I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A THING!

GIVEN YOUR UNFORTUNATE DEPRIVED CHILDHOOD--NOT TO MENTION YOUR FAMILY'S GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THIS INSTITUTION--YOU WON'T GET DETENTION THIS TIME...

ER...PERHAPS SOME EXTRA CLASSES IN ETIQUETTE AND DEPORTMENT ARE IN ORDER...

PFFFT

...FOR BOTH OF YOU!

HAVE YOU SEEN HER EAT?

Directora Solis

THE MONKEY HAS BETTER TABLE MANNERS!

WHAT BOTHERS YOU MORE ABOUT HER? HER TABLE MANNERS OR HER FAMILY'S MONEY?

HA. LOOK WHO'S TALKING, BOO HOO, NOW YOU'RE THE SECOND RICHEST GIRL HERE...!

SLUP

LOOK WHO'S TALKING TABLE MANNERS--

HEY, ISN'T THAT *YOUR STUFF*?!

LOURDES H. #307

HEADMISTRESS SOLIS' ORDERS, SENORITAS: ROOM TRANSFER.

HOLA!

YEEP

oom reassignment:
ernandez, Lourdes to
'(to accommodate
ent,
ıwell, Rachel.
Solis

"SHE WAS RAISED BY SAVAGES, GREW UP WITH ANIMALS, I CAN'T ROOM WITH A CREATURE LIKE THAT--PAPI, WHY ARE YOU ALLOWING IT? ONE PHONE CALL FROM YOU...

IT'S ALREADY BEEN DECIDED, *MI HIJA*, NEITHER THE HEAD-MISTRESS NOR I APPROVE OF THE MISCHIEF YOU AND LOURDES GET INTO.

WHAT?

SHHH!

BESIDES, THE CARDWELL GIRL'S FAMILY ARE SOME OF THE MOST POWERFUL PEOPLE IN VAL VERDE. THAT'S WHY YOU'RE AT THAT SCHOOL, TO RUB SHOULDERS WITH YOUR PEERS.

BUT PAPI...

DON'T "BUT PAPI" ME.

IT WILL BE GOOD FOR YOU TO SOCIALIZE WITH HER...AND PLEASE... KEEP ME INFORMED OF EVERYTHING SHE DOES.

"EVERYTHING."

DHAKKA!

HA!

WHAM

I WILL TAKE THAT!

SOMEBODY STOP HER!

HO! I OUTRAN PREDATORS IN DENSE JUNGLE--

--DO YOU THINK YOU CAN CATCH ME ON OPEN GROUND?

TWEEET

GOAL AND GAME!

THIS "LA CROSSE" IS EXCITING! BUT VICTORY MAKES IT EVEN SWEETER!

"VICTORY"? WHAT VICTORY?!

YOU SCORED ON OUR OWN TEAM!

YOU KNOW THEY'RE LAUGHING AT YOU, NOT WITH YOU.

I'VE EXPLAINED THIS BEFORE, OLD MAN: SO LONG AS "RACHEL CARDWELL" IS TAKEN FOR A FOOL, SHEENA GETS THE LAST LAUGH.

AWK! SHEENA!

NO, PETE!

CLOTHING, RACHEL, NOT SHEENA. SAVVY SAVVY?

AWK! SAVVY, RACHEL! IXNAY ON THE SHEENA!

I SAY IXNAY ON THIS WHOLE LOCO IDEA. WHY AM I HERE? WHY DID YOU LET YOUR FAMILY PUT YOU HERE WITH ALL THESE *CHICAS RICAS?*

BECAUSE FOREIGN FIDUCIARY INTERESTS HAVE EAR-MARKED PARCELS IN ARBOREAL FORESTS WHICH HAS LED TO ANOMALOUS OCCURRENCES IN ADJACENT INDIGENOUS HAMLETS.

WHAT'S WITH THE BIG WORDS?

WE HAD A VOCABULARY TEST TODAY.

CAN I SKIP THIS ONE?

THE ZONA PROHIBIDA IS RIGHT ACROSS THE RIVER. ATTENDING THIS SCHOOL IS A PERFECT EXCUSE TO INVESTIGATE WHY VILLAGES THERE HAVE BEEN PLAGUED BY INTRUSIONS. YOU'RE HERE TO WATCH MY BACK AND RELAY WHAT I FIND TO BOB.

MEANWHILE, WHEN YOU'RE IN CLASS, I'M BUSTING MY ASS. NOBODY'S MINDING THE TRADING POST AND I MISS BOTH MY WIVES. WHEN DO I GO BACK TO MY DAY JOB?

THAT, DON FELIPE, DEPENDS ON HOW WELL *I* DO... ON THE NIGHT SHIFT.

CAREFUL, LITTLE ONE. WE KNOW NOT WHAT DANGERS LURK IN THE DARK.

I DO NOT WANT YOU TO SUFFER LIKE YOU DID IN OUR LAST ADVENTURE.*

OK.

*SEE 'THE MIDNIGHT WITCH: TRUST & BETRAYAL' 1 & 2.

LIKE KNIVES, LITTLE GIRL?

THEN WATCH ME.

YOU MISSED SOME.

NONSENSE. I *NEVER* MISS.

SHE MOVED.
AH. POOR HER.
I BETTER GET OUTTA HERE...
GRRRRR
WOW. WHAT A WEIRD BEAST!
I BET LEONA KNOWS WHAT KIND OF CREATURE THIS IS.
BEST ASK HER.
HEY!!
THIS IS SIMBA. OUR LION, YOUNG LADY.
LION?
WANNA SEE A NICE TRICK?
YES... I GUESS.

BEHOLD AS HE LETS ME PUT MY ENTIRE HEAD INTO HIS MOUTH WITHOUT REACTING AND--

CHOMP!

ARGH! LEMME GO!

AHAHA HAHA!

AS THE LITTLE ONE HAS HER FUN, I SHALL CONTINUE MY QUEST.

I HOPE HERE I CAN FIND ANSWERS FOR MY MOM WHEREABOUTS OR...

THIS LOOKS PROMISSING.

DREAM OF REFUGE

INVITE ONLY

LEONA! YOU'RE REALLY HERE!

I WAS SO ANXIOUS FOR YOU TO GET HERE.

I'VE DONE EVERYTHING TO LET THINGS THE WAY YOU LIKE.

C'MON, LEMME SHOW YOU AROUND.

OH, I'M *SO* EXCITED!

OH, CAN YOU BELIEVE HOW CLUELESS I AM? FORGOT INTRODUCING MYSELF.

MY NAME IS ***HELLEQUIM***. THIS IS MY CIRCUS.

INTERESTING.

I AM SORRY... HAVE WE MET?

I'VE PREPARED EVERYTHING FOR YOU. COME, I'M GONNA SHOW YOU.

THERE YOU ARE. COME WITH US. AS AN OWL.

OK.

VERY WELL, HELLEQUIM. SHOW ME YOUR CIRCUS AND TELL ME MORE ABOUT YOURSELF.

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE HERE. IN *MY* CIRCUS.

THIS IS SO EXCITING.

YOU'RE GONNA LOVE IT!

REEEEC

FLY LOW AND KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN, LITTLE ONE.

WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT SURPRISES ARE IN STORE FOR US.

OK.

DON'T NEED TO WORRY, LEONA.

WHAT...?

YOU'RE IN MY HOME NOW.

BLAM

I'D NEVER LET ANYTHING HERE HURT YOU.

I KNEW YOU'D LOVE IT.

WAIT 'TILL YOU SEE THE BEST OF IT.

HELLEQUIM, WHEN YOU SAY YOU DID THIS ALL BY YOURSELF, WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

THAT I'VE CREATED IT ALL.

THIS IS THE INSIDE OF THE CIRCUS?

WHERE DO WE FIND OURSELVES?

JUST TOLD YOU. THIS IS MY HOME. I DID IT ALL BY MYSELF.

AIN'T IT GREAT?

IT'S.... IMPRESSIVE.

YOU MUST BE A REAL POWERFUL BEING THEN.

WAY BELOW YOUR LEVEL, LEONA.

YOU SPEAK AS IF WE ARE CLOSE.

BUT I'M CERTAIN WE HAVE NEVER MET BEFORE.

YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT. BUT I KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU.

LEONA, THE MIDNIGHT WITCH.

THE ONE WHO COMES AND CHANGES PEOPLE'S LIVES.

THE ONE WHO DOES WHAT SHE WANTS WHEN SHE WANTS.

I BELIEVE YOU ARE MISTAKEN REGARDING THAT LAST ASPECT.

HOW DO YOU KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT ME?

HERE IS THE CROSSROADS OF AGES.

WE KNOW EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS IN OTHER DIMENSIONS.

DO YOU LIVE HERE BY YOURSELF?

SORTA.

HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

YOU'LL SEE.

WELL...

I THINK THIS IS THE END OF THE ROAD.

WANT ME TO FLY TO THE OTHER SIDE AND CHECK IT OUT?

THERE IS NO NEED FOR THAT, LITTLE ONE.

HELLEQUIM? WHAT HAPPENS?

NOTHING MUCH, MY DEAR LEONA. I JUST WANT TO INTRODUCE YOU TO MY FRIENDS.

MOTHER, HOW DEEP IS THIS FALL?

DON'T YOU LIVE ALONE?

I LIVE ALONE, BUT NOT WITHOUT COMPANY.

WHAT SORT OF CHARADE IS THIS?

WHEN I SAID I LIVE ALONE, I WAS TALKING ABOUT PEOPLE.

THAT'S AN EYE?

GODS!

RUUUUUMBLE

THIS IS *CACO*, ONE OF THE MANY FRIENDS I LIVE WITH HERE.

DON'T NEED TO BE AFRAID. HE'S HARMLESS. HE WANTS TO BE YOUR FRIEND. JUST LIKE ME.

WOW....

I'M SURE YOU'LL UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING WHEN I TELL YOU ALL ABOUT ME AND SHOW YOU MY FRIENDS AND THE REST OF MY CIRCUS.

MOTHER...

WE'RE GONNA BE BEST FRIENDS. YOU'LL SEE.

TO BE CONTINUED...

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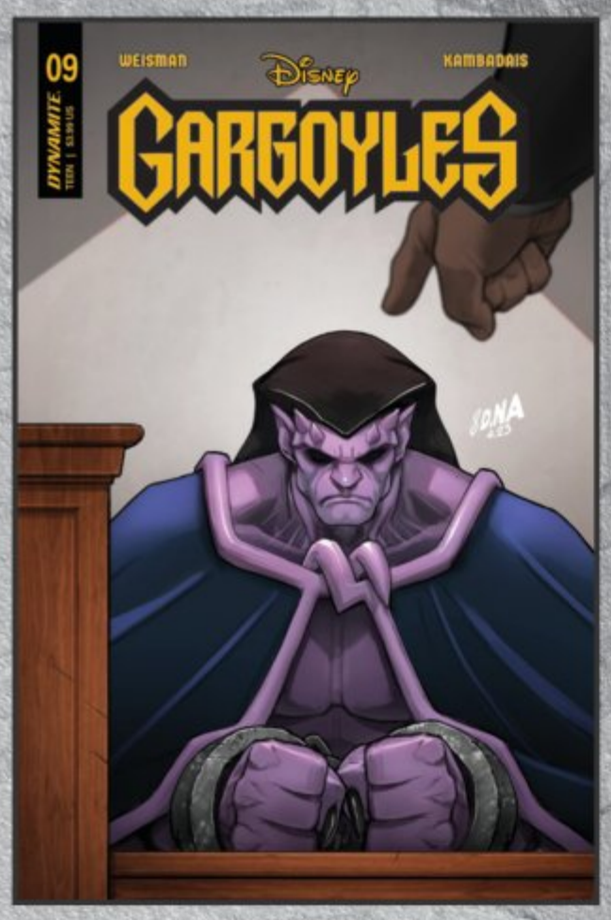

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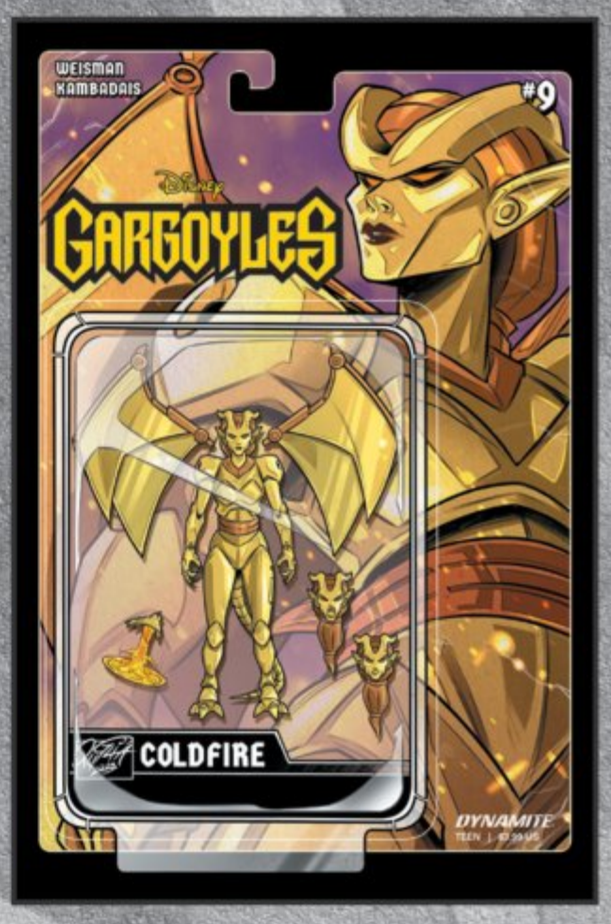

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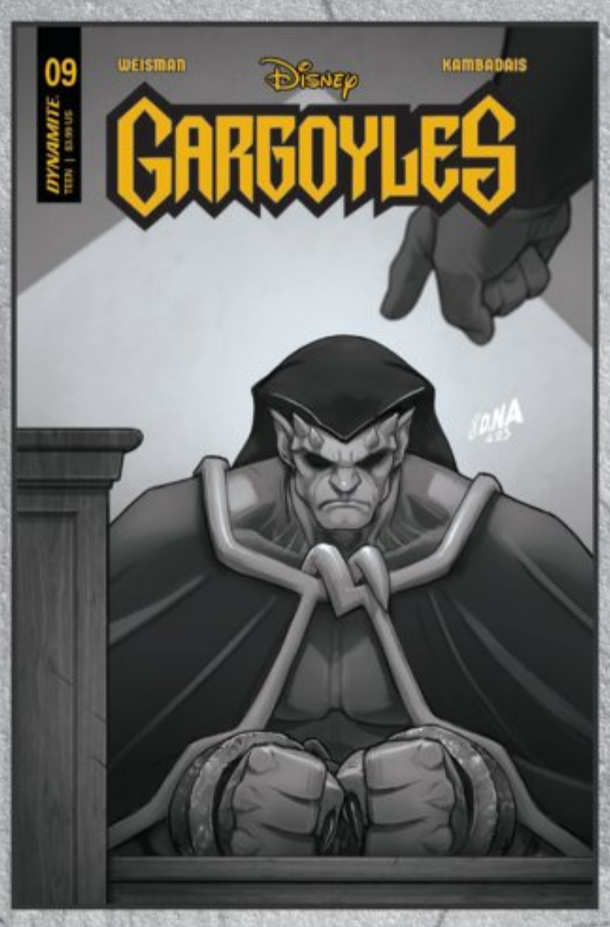

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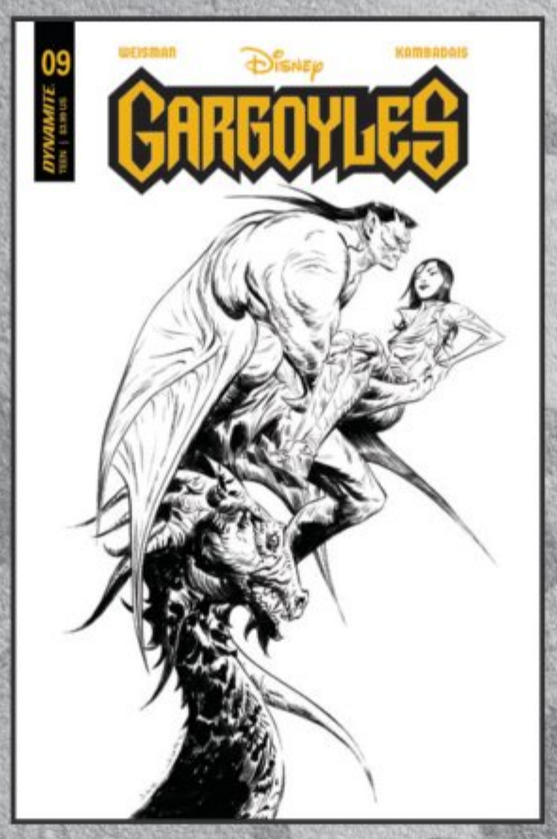

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